

Facilities

Patchin Field

All of VMI's home games are played within the cozy confines of Patchin Field, which is adjacent to the baseball and tennis facilities at VMI. Located to the north of Institute Hill and built overtop Woods Creek, which still runs beneath it, Patchin Field offers separate practice and game fields for VMI soccer and lacrosse. Patchin Field House, located next to the baseball diamond, houses soccer locker room facilities, a storage room, and an auxiliary training room that features two whirlpools, a taping bench, and four treatment tables. In 2000, a new brute Bermuda grass was laid out, vastly improving the quality of the playing surface. Also, the construction of a new sprinkler system as well as the addition of a new scoreboard have further improved the confines of Patchin Field. Plans are in the works to expand the facilities at Patchin Field, further enhancing what VMI is able to offer the student-athlete.



Locker Room

The Patchin Field locker room recently underwent an \$887,000 improvement and was ready for the women's soccer team to move into this past spring. The building, which women's soccer shares with the baseball, lacrosse, and men's soccer teams, is equipped with significantly more space than before as well as a room for visiting teams, an extra training room, and an equipment room. The addition should enhance the experience of all VMI athletic teams that use Patchin Field.

The Institute prides itself on providing the student-athlete with the tools to improve oneself not just intellectually, but physically.

The ability to help every Keydet soccer player reach her maximum potential has itself been brought to a new level. In 1995, a massive renovation and refurbishing was conducted of the Charles S. Luck '20 Memorial Weight Room, located in Coker Hall.

With over 7,000 square feet of space, the Luck Weight Room now contains over 15,000 lbs. of free weights, and 2,000 lbs. of dumbbell weights. Over 70 pieces of free weight training equipment are available for the use of the student-athlete, and over 40 pieces of resistive training machine-type equipment.

Among the key acquisitions of the recent renovations was the addition and enlargement of the dumbbell training area, which almost tripled in size and now contains weights ranging from five to 140 pounds. Auto-spot benches were installed, among the newest and safest pieces of weight training equipment available on the market. New Olympic platforms were installed, with increased cushioning and padding for the weights. Four heavy-duty power racks, weighing 400 pounds each, were installed, and a number of back, leg, and neck machines were installed to complement existing equipment. Finally, the entire area was recarpeted and repainted to provide athletes with comfortable surroundings in which to weight train. A cardio room equipped with stairmasters, treadmills, elliptical machines and the like is attached to the weight room.

The Athletic Training Room is located in Cameron Hall, with smaller auxiliary training rooms located in Clarkson-McKenna Hall and Patchin Field House. Under the supervision of Director of Sports Medicine Lance Fujiwara, M.S., ATC, the sports medicine staff implements prevention of injury and immediate treatment, and rehabilitation procedures for the injured athlete, as directed by a physician. The Cameron Hall Athletic Training Room features four whirlpools, seven treatment beds, taping bench, and various pieces of rehabilitation and treatment equipment.

Workout & Training Facilities



Lexington, Virginia

AND ROCKBRIDGE COUNTY

Rockbridge County is located toward the south end of the Shenandoah Valley of Virginia. The county takes its name from Natural Bridge, the massive stone formation that spans Cedar Creek in the southern part of the county.

For centuries, this area has been a natural thoroughfare from the northeast to the richness of the lands west of the Appalachians. The Cherokee and Monacan Indian tribes lived in the area prior to its settlement by European colonists, which began in the 1730's.

Most of the settlers were Scotch-Irish and Germans, who migrated south from Pennsylvania in search of more land. Several large land grants, notably one to Benjamin Borden, stimulated settlement in the 1740's. Grantees were required to induce a certain number of families to settle on the granted land. The Borden Grant, originally 100,000 acres, included most of present-day Rockbridge County.

In 1777, Rockbridge County was established, and the town of Lexington was founded as the county seat.

A defining event occurred in 1782, when Liberty Hall Academy was moved from Augusta County to a site just west of Lexington. The school's future was assured in 1796, when George Washington gave it \$50,000 worth of James River Canal stock, at that time the largest such bequest to a college in the history of the new nation. The school was renamed Washington College in the general's honor, and soon moved to its present location after the Liberty Hall building burned. The ruins of Liberty Hall can still be seen just north of Rt. 60 at the western edge of town.

In 1839, the Virginia legislature established Virginia Military Institute at Lexington, in what had previously been a state arsenal. VMI has educated thousands of citizen-soldiers in its more than 150-year existence, including Gen. George C. Marshall, Gen. George S. Patton, and Adm. Richard E. Byrd.

The Civil War had a devastating effect on Lexington and its people. Raiding Federal troops burned VMI in 1864. Graduates of VMI and Washington College served with distinction in many campaigns of the war, and the VMI Corps of Cadets fought as a unit at the Battle of New Market. Gen. Thomas J. "Stonewall" Jackson, a professor at VMI until the war, is remembered as one of the history's greatest military strategists. Jackson is buried in Jackson Memorial Cemetery, along with many other Civil War veterans.

After the war, Gen. Robert E. Lee was persuaded to come to Lexington to serve as president of Washington College. Lee revitalized the school, modernized the curriculum, and encouraged reconciliation between the



The City of Lexington, Va. is nationally renowned for its beauty and charm.



Natural Bridge

North and South. After his death in 1870, the school's trustees renamed it Washington and Lee University.

Around 1890, a speculative boom hit western Virginia. Numerous towns were established by development companies, with a grand hotel as a centerpiece. Streets were laid out and lots sold, and resold, at ever inflating prices. Buena Vista and the towns of Glasgow and Goshen were all founded as a result of the boom. When the bubble burst, many of these boom towns stagnated.



Goshen Pass in Rockbridge County

Buena Vista weathered the crash and became the industrial center of the county. The boom-era hotel is now Main Hall at Southern Virginia College.

We invite you to visit our museums - the Marshall Museum, the VMI Museum, and the Stonewall Jackson House; walk the campuses of our town, take a drive on the Blue Ridge Parkway, see a horse show at the Virginia Horse Center, enjoy a cool swim in Goshen Pass, take in a play in the natural setting of Lime Kiln Theater, or browse in our many distinctive shops.

This is... The Virginia Military Institute

The Institute

The Virginia Military Institute is the nation's oldest state-supported military college, founded in 1839 in Lexington, Virginia, located at the southern end of the Shenandoah Valley. VMI offers qualified young men and women a demanding combination of academic study and rigorous military training that exists nowhere else, and grants B.A. and B.S. degrees in fourteen disciplines within the general fields of engineering, science, and liberal arts. The Institute's emphasis on qualities of honor, integrity, and responsibility contributes to its unique educational philosophy. Professional leadership training is provided to all cadets through the Reserve Officers' Training Corps (ROTC) programs, maintained at VMI by the Department of Defense. Cadets are encouraged to pursue commissions in the U.S. Army, Air Force, Navy, or Marine Corps.

In every field of endeavor, whether it's leadership in business, industry, public service, education, the professions, or careers in the military, success comes early to a high number of VMI graduates. In an independent survey of college graduates seeking employment, armed forces commission, or admission to graduate or professional school following graduation, 95 percent of VMI graduates met their goal by the following October.

VMI's academic breadth is diverse, and curricula for the selected major begins the first year. About 30 percent of cadets major in civil, electrical, or mechanical engineering, about half the Corps majors in liberal arts fields, and the two most popular majors are economics/business and history.

For three consecutive years, U.S. News & World Report's "America's Best Colleges," has named VMI as the No. 1 public-supported liberal arts college in the nation, and ranked its engineering program in the top one-third of "Best Undergraduate" accredited programs at schools offering only bachelor's and master's degrees. In separate rankings for engineering specialties, VMI's civil engineering program ranks sixth, its electrical and computer engineering program is ranked 14th, and mechanical engineering program, 17th. For two consecutive years, VMI has been included in the Peterson's "Competitive Colleges," guide. The highly respected book includes information on, "top colleges for top students." In addition, Princeton Review has named VMI to its "Best Mid-Atlantic Colleges" list.

The VMI Corps of Cadets

Today 1,300 young men and women in the VMI Corps of Cadets represent 48 states and 15 foreign countries. Over 100 study abroad each year, one-third compete in intercollegiate athletics, and all have significant leadership opportunities.

All cadets reside in "Barracks," the centerpiece of the VMI "Post." The original structure was built in 1850 and is a National Historic Landmark. An additional wing was added in 1949. All cadet rooms are equipped for computer technology. Adjoining Barracks are offices and meeting areas for dozens of VMI clubs and organizations, the cadet visitors center and lounge, snack bar, and a Barnes & Noble-operated bookstore.

VMI cadets uphold an honor system as old as the Institute. An oath of honor is taken by each cadet, "not to lie, cheat, or steal, nor tolerate those who do," and the oath is practiced in daily life. Because it is basic to cadet life, honor is ingrained, and builds strong character. Honor is the cornerstone of every cadet's lifelong commitment to integrity, duty, self-discipline, and self-reliance.

One of the oldest VMI traditions is the orientation and instruction provided to new cadets by old cadets. Regardless of background or prior training, every cadet in his/her first year at VMI is a "Rat," and each is a "Brother Rat" to the other. They live under the "Rat System" until "Break Out," and their bonds formed by this experience are lifelong.

Academic Program

VMI's demanding academic program reflects established needs and emerging trends of an ever-changing, global society. A robust undergraduate research initiative extends through summer, affording cadets and faculty financial incentives and continuous support for a wide range of investigative projects. The Institute's international programs include faculty and student exchanges with more than a dozen international academies and universities, seven foreign internships, and numerous study-abroad programs each semester and during the summer. The Institute Honors Program offers highly motivated and high-achieving cadets the opportunity to enrich their academic experience, including competition for prestigious external scholarships. The Institute Writing Program seeks to equip cadets for both academic success and participation in the full range of rhetorical opportunities they will encounter in their lives as citizens and professionals.

VMI is accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools, is a member of American Council on Education, the Association of American Colleges, the College Entrance Examination Board, and the Association of Virginia Colleges. VMI's engineering programs are accredited by the Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology; and the chemistry program is accredited by the American Chemical Society.

Majors and Degrees

VMI offers the baccalaureate degree in fourteen curricula. The B.S. is awarded in chemistry, civil engineering, computer science, electrical engineering, mechanical engineering, and physics. The B.A. is conferred in economics and business, English, history, international studies, modern languages, and psychology. The B.S. or B.A. can be earned in biology and mathematics. A course of study leading to the B.S. or B.A. is chosen upon entering VMI, but transfer from one major field of study to another is permitted.

